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(54) Title: PURIFICATION/DECOLORIZATION TREATMENT FOR FATTY NITRILES

(57) Abstract: The present invention contemplates a process for the removal of impurities comprising amides, but which may include other impurities such as amines, from a solution of the nitriles and impurities. A reaction mixture is first formed and to that reaction mixture, 0.5 to 3wt% of approximately 60% H₂SO₄ is stirred in at room temperature and atmospheric pressure for a time effective for the removal of the amide impurities. Typically, after about 30 minutes, the amide impurity is removed into the lower, dark acid layer, probably as a salt. The remaining nitrile, after decantation or filtration, is still colored but is substantially free of amide. In a to second step, at room temperature or at a temperature of up to ~80°C, color can be removed from the nitrile by stirring the acid-washed nitrile with 0.5-5 wt% of clay (bentonite), charcoal, zeolitic type materials, mixtures thereof and the like.

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
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According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
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Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ, CHEM ABS Data

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

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A	US 4 575 434 A (PARK JOHN Y G ET AL) 11 March 1986 (1986-03-11) column 2, line 24 - line 56 column 4, line 46 - line 54	1-20
A	GB 526 496 A (DU PONT) 19 September 1940 (1940-09-19) page 1, line 78 - line 90	1-20

☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

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